

a software interface for interacting with said computer;

a display for displaying information processed by said computer;

a weapon communicably connected to said computer, and having a trigger for firing said weapon;

said weapon having a grip for handling said weapon, said grip located adjacent said trigger; and said weapon having a barrel including a bore, said bore having an axis extending longitudinally therethrough;

wherein said software interface is controlled by a weapon mounted cursor control device, said weapon cursor control device comprising:

a control mechanism for positioning a cursor, said control mechanism being so located on a rear facing portion of said grip such that both a right and left handed user can access said control mechanism employing a thumb while maintaining contact with said trigger with a finger; and

an actuating mechanism for performing control, selection, and action functions on said software interface; and

wherein said weapon mounted cursor control device is communicably connected to a first software interface embodied in a computer readable medium, said first software interface providing a click-and-carry method of cursor control and including a cursor and graphical icons, said click-and-carry method comprising in sequence:

orienting said cursor at a first location proximal a graphical icon displayed on said user interface;

depressing said actuating mechanism to select said graphical icon;

releasing said actuating mechanism;

orienting said cursor at a second location physically separate from said first location;

depressing said actuating mechanism to release said graphical icon at said second location.

40(Cancelled).

41(Previously Added). The apparatus according to claim 39 further including a second software interface comprising:

at least one pull-down menu containing words being alternately descriptive of combat scenarios and directives;

a message window for receiving and displaying words selected from said pull-down menu;

means for selectively transmitting a message contained in said message window.

42(Currently Amended). The apparatus according to claim 39 40 wherein said control mechanism comprises a joystick for access by a thumb of a user.

43(Currently Amended). A portable, wearable, information apparatus for collecting, coordinating, and communicating information, said system being capable of providing real-time situational awareness in armed conflict conditions, said system comprising:

an input/output device for interfacing said computer with components of said system, said components including:

a display for displaying information processed by said computer;

a voiceless, wireless communication means; and

a user position location device;

a power supply;
a computer for controlling functions of said apparatus and having a software interface for interacting with said computer;

wherein said apparatus further includes a weapon communicably connected to said computer, and having a trigger for firing said weapon,

said weapon having a grip for handling said weapon, said grip located adjacent said trigger; and said weapon having a barrel including a bore, said bore having an axis extending longitudinally therethrough;

wherein said software interface is controlled by a weapon mounted cursor control device, said weapon cursor control device comprising:

a control mechanism for positioning a cursor, said control mechanism being so located on a rear facing portion of said grip such that both a right and left handed user can access said control mechanism employing a thumb while maintaining contact with said trigger with a finger; and

an actuating mechanism for performing control, selection, and action functions on said software interface;

wherein said input/output device comprises:

voltage converters for converting power provided by a power source to voltages compatible with said components of said system, said voltage converters thereafter being capable of transmitting said converted power to said components; and

data relays for routing data between said computer and said components thereby permitting said components and said computer to communicate;

a plurality of universal, plug-in, plug-out connectors for receiving universal connectors of said components, said

universal, plug-in, plug-out connectors further providing means for quickly removing a said component and thereafter replacing said component with a new component, wherein said new component connects to said input/output device via a universal connector; and

wherein said weapon mounted cursor control device is communicably connected to a first software interface embodied in a computer readable medium, said first software interface providing a click-and-carry method of cursor control and including a cursor and graphical icons, said click-and-carry method comprising in sequence:

orienting said cursor at a first location proximal a graphical icon displayed on said user interface;

depressing said actuating mechanism to select said graphical icon;

releasing said actuating mechanism;

orienting said cursor at a second location physically separate from said first location;

depressing said actuating mechanism to release said graphical icon at said second location.

44(Cancelled).

45(Currently Amended). The apparatus according to claim 43 44 further including a second software interface comprising:

at least one pull-down menu containing words being alternately descriptive of combat scenarios and directives;

a message window for receiving and displaying words selected from said pull-down menu;

means for selectively transmitting a message contained in said message window.

46(Previously Added). The apparatus according to claim 45 wherein said control mechanism comprises a joystick for access by a thumb of a user therefore enabling the user to maintain a finger on said trigger while operating said joystick.

49(Previously Added). The apparatus according to claim 41 wherein said words which are contained in said pull-down menu may be input by a user.

50(Previously Added). The apparatus according to claim 43 wherein said input/output device further includes digital/analog data converting means.

51(Previously Added). The apparatus according to claim 50 wherein said input/output device further includes video format converting means.